



# FASHION INTERNATIONAL

NEWS AND VIEWS OF THE INTERNATIONAL FASHION WORLD

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## SPRING 2001 ROUNDUP

**T**he New York collections were all about sensuality and luxury. Designers eschewed the “work wardrobe” and instead opted for an emphasis on late-day dressing. The gold standard prevailed as did bareness and transparency. The mix of materials continued with leather and suede, now an all-year staple for the fashion conscious consumer, and beading, glitter, and detailing,

which were not limited to eveningwear. In short, the word for Spring 2001 — eclectic.

At **ANNE BOWEN** the theme was Island Winds, and her filmy chiffons fit the mood perfectly. Fashioned in delicate shades of ocean, cocoa, and peridot, these after dark dresses and separates had just enough glitter without going

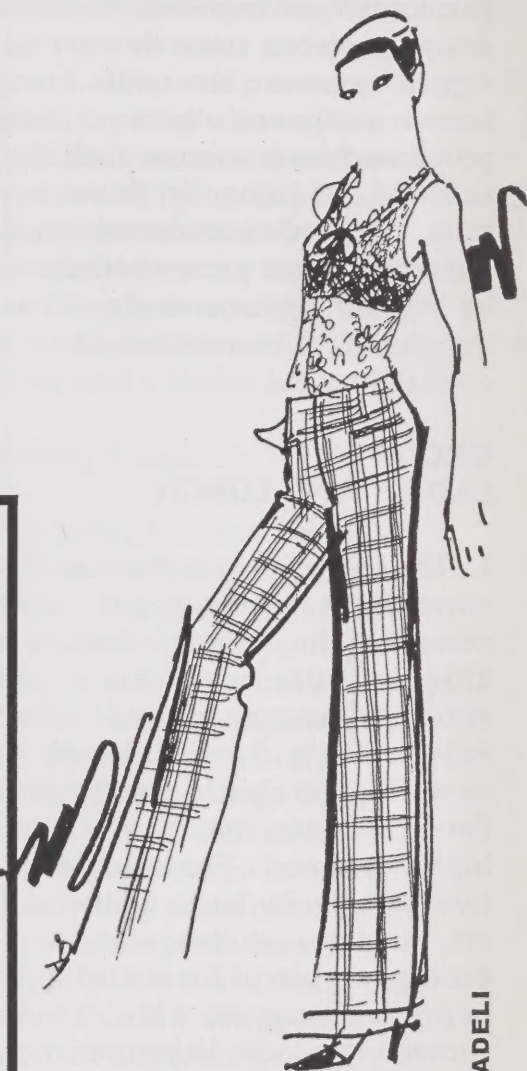
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## CONVERSATIONS: FALL TRENDS

“Luck Be  
A Lady”

**T**he lady has been with us now since Miuccia Prada brought her back with her Spring 1999 show. This trend continues to evolve, taking new and interesting twists. According to Roseann Forde, Fashion Director of DuPont USA, “the lady theme has come back in vogue because in the year 2000 women have arrived.

*continued on page 2*



KATAYONE ADELI



Women are now strong enough and secure enough in themselves to be comfortable being ladies again." She believes the theme will dominate fashion for Fall 2001, and has broken the category down into three different groupings: **ladies who lunch**, **ladies who weekend**, and her personal favorite, **ladies who show off**.

As always, Ms. Forde highlighted her film and lecture presentation with representative garments she bought while in Europe. Some of the garments were high-end designer pieces, some designed by newer, less well-known designers, others purchased from sources such as H&M. Additionally, this time, Ms. Forde broadened the scope of her presentation by including garments she bought with the over size 14 market in mind.

#### **GROUP #1: LADIES WHO LUNCH**

1. The Valentino ads that are currently in fashion magazines best illustrate this look. This particular lady wears strong colors such as bold reds, amber and copper tones, as well as the classic camel. Favorite fabrics tend to be highly textured. They include tweeds, novelty knits, feathers, pinstripes and sequins. A prodigious use of fur is also in order. Designers who showed this look: Valentino, Chanel, Armani, Gucci, Prada, and Michael Kors.

2. Striking, contrasting fabrics paired together are a trend within this category. At Gucci, Tom Ford showed garments made of contrasting leather and fabric with lots of flocking detail. At Prada, this was illustrated by showing filmy geometric print dresses with nubby tweed coats.

3. "Modern meets retro". The most striking example is ladylike leathers, cut in vibrant colors, that have some Lycra in them. Accessories in this category are hose with logos — all the rage both in the US and in Europe.

4. Cooler whites with metallic filaments woven into the fabric were popular, giving the pieces sparkle (sparkle was also a big makeup trend). Camel is always a lady staple. Designers expanded on this area of the color wheel by adding all shades of brown, as well as rust. Plum was popular as an accent color. Ms. Forde showed a tweed skirt suit with fur-like trim and panne velvet panels.

5. Different hem lengths within the same garment was another interesting feature. For the full-figured market, she showed a stylish wrap-front skirt with Velcro closure and an asymmetric waistband. Callaghan paired a wool Lycra top that zipped up the side with a long black skirt that featured a shorter front hem, giving a train like effect.

6. "When the suit comes back, the blouse tags along." There were plenty of pussycat bow

blouses to choose from at every price point. Her example was a brown polka dot silk worn with a wide leg herringbone pant and sweater with a fur tippet. This outfit neatly covers several of the category's major trends.

#### **GROUP #2: LADIES WHO WEEKEND: "L.L. Bean goes to Paris"**

1. Prominent colors are clean creams and teals with rich dark accents. Fabrics are cozy wovens and corduroys. This is, Ms. Forde stated, luxury for casual wear. The intent is the country moneyed look. "Urban rustic" looks include sweater coats by Ralph Lauren (the master of the country moneyed look), and layered sportswear at Hermes. Marc Jacobs puts in his two cents with patterned sweaters and inventive plaid remixes.

2. Tweed is a central player and has been updated with Lycra so that it moves more easily than the stiff tweeds of yesteryear.

3. Country doesn't have to look dressed down. At Celine, Michael Kors showed paisley pants worn with a luxurious fur stole.

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4. Ms. Forde predicts that industrial elements mixing in with apparel will be important. As examples, she passed around a black coated jean jacket and jeans from Paris with grommets as a waistband. Sporty fleece gets an edge when it's laser cut.

continued on page 5



# NEWS FROM... ■ ■ ■

## New York

SPRING 2001

COMING TO YOU FROM .... NEW YORK,  
PALM BEACH, HOLLYWOOD, LOUISVILLE

**SPRING SYNOPSIS:** The '40s, '60s, '70s and '80s return with lush, lavish, the lady, the sex kitten, the reemergence of '80s punk, embellishment, accessories, color, pizzazz. Our muses: Deborah Harry in her glory days, early East Village Madonna, Joan Crawford, Julie Christie

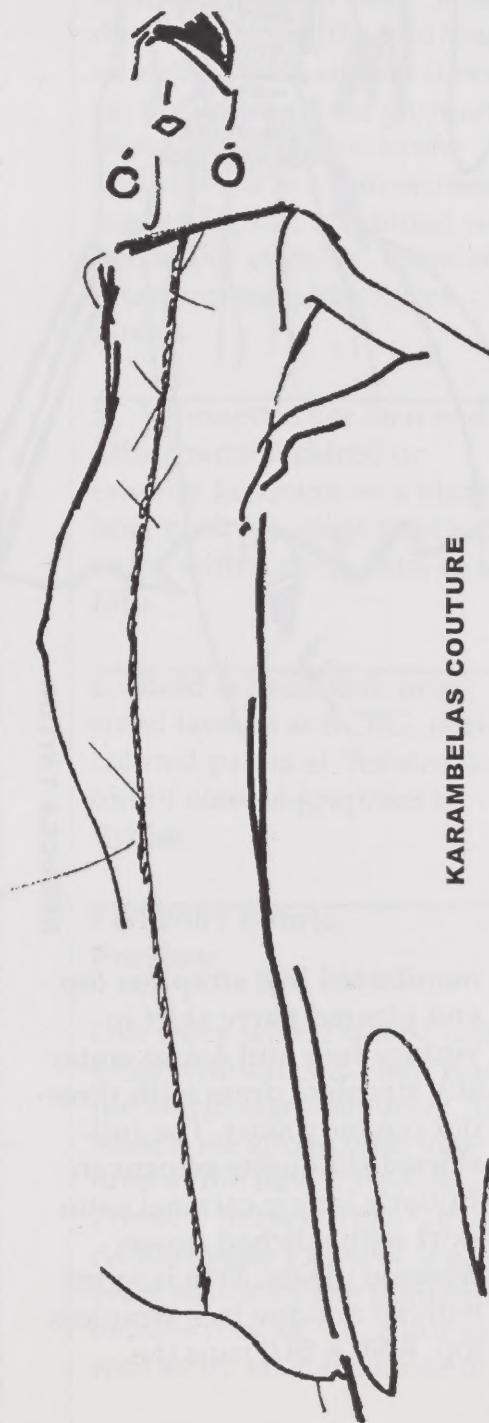
### MAKEUP:

Flushed cheeks, heavily "done" eyes, big teased bedroom hair, exaggerated side parts.

### DESIGNERS:

Maggie Norris Couture

Debuting at Bergdorf Goodman, NY, Ms. Norris set her equestrienne couture to ragtime music eerily reminiscent of the tunes that played in the blockbuster film, "Titanic". She showed a collection of exquisite ensembles consisting of corsets from Paris worn with either riding britches or full riding skirts for day, in a soothing palette of creams, tans and browns. She completed the effect with early 20<sup>th</sup> Century ladylike riding shoes, boots, and hats. There were also great belts and gloves, particularly a wide three-buckle belt. The



models complemented the look, displaying flushed cheeks and romantic wind-blown hair as if they'd been out for a brisk canter. For late afternoon and evening, fabrics were dressier and suited grand accessories: a water green tapestry skirt with a train and cream colored corset was set-off by an important diamond necklace. Norris saved the best for last – a wedding gown (with a corset of course) enhanced with tiny bows and a frothy white veil.

### Robert Danes

In a collection best described as East Village couture, Mr. Danes' designs were at home in a private downtown garden, on a runway built among the bronze art sculptures that decorated the lawn. His wealthy East village debutantes with punk attitude looked both fierce and sexy: clearly they were not afraid to experiment with the strong brightly colored makeup that is hot this fall. Huge asymmetric buns gone awry (by stylist Brian Devine of Garren, NY) added to the effect. Mr. Danes, known for

continued on page 6



over the top. Also pretty was Bowen's full skirted '50s-inspired ankle dress in aqua and her sculpted tank top ball gown in iridescent sky blue.

**WILLIAM CALVERT's** mostly strong collection focused on late day as well. His pretty blush satin-faced organza Empire dress featured an interesting glazed red leather insert, as did an iridescent aqua organza gown with the insert in aqua metallic leather. The '50s resurfaced in Calvert's aqua satin-faced organza pinwheel skirt. This interesting new full skirted to the knee shape was shown with a silk mesh and metallic leather top. **DONNA HAAG** combined clean lines with lots of color in a collection inspired by the South Sea Islands and aimed at the young and fit. Best was her pretty spaghetti strap chiffon top in bright lime with laser-cut flowers and sprinkled with rhinestones. This was shown atop a matching long knit skirt. Also pretty was her V-necked ruched dress in a bird of paradise chiffon print and the Missoni inspired one-shoulder long body hugging dress in raspberry, tangerine and citrus melange knit. Color also pops at **CHRISTINA**

**PERRIN.** Her cocktail dresses in tangerine and fuchsia silk were gorgeous and so too the red floral Lurex gowns and evening separates, particularly the draped floral chiffon tank with cropped pants in tangerine and fuchsia satin with tux stripes. **REBECCA TAYLOR** is all about being pretty. Her girly mood was

4



REBECCA TAYLOR

manifested in a strapless top and pleated party skirt in vintage rose and a rose water silk strapless dress with three-tier organdy skirt. The full-skirted silhouette returns in Taylor's lovely caramel satin skirt with stitched down, released pleats. This is worn with an antique lace strapless top. **ANNA SUI** runs the

gamut this season with looks that range from ladylike to the more hard-edged 1980s. In the latter category is her white denim strong shouldered motorcycle jacket shown atop a black stretch jersey wrap dress. In the ladylike vein are the pretty floral print crepe dresses. Sui also had a chic black jersey cardigan, embroidered in coral, tossed over a matching top and tan leather pants – very '60s Capri in feeling. At **STEPHEN DIGERONIMO** the leathers were outstanding in a collection that needed a bit of editing. Best – a chic tangerine suede blouson pullover worn over a bronze matte jersey pleated skirt, and his tangerine leather obi that accented a stone Tasmanian wool jacket and lemon halter top. The leather obi also wraps DiGeronimo's starburst print silk shirtdress.

In a near perfect collection, **KATAYONE ADELI** had some outstanding, beautifully detailed looks for the young and slim. Simply sensational were her pin tucked piques, the ladylike gray denim coat, and the delicate flutter sleeved dresses in white pique and pink tulle; her double yoke pants that fit like a second skin without being vulgar. Also wonderful — the ribbon beaded sheer black chiffon and lace top, unexpectedly paired with flared hipster pants in a Glen plaid. As a whole, this collection combined crisp tailoring with feminine fabrics and subtle neutral colors for a look both delicate and strong. The ladies



Plaids and prints cut on the bias look fashion forward.

5. New "hot" fabrics that offer both comfort and style are now available. Knit boot-cut style "jeans" made of veloflex fabric are as comfortable as an exercise legging and certainly more stylish. Girbaud makes jeans with adjustable hems for both adults and children.

### **GROUP #3: LADIES WHO DARE**

1. Ms. Forde kicks this segment off with a quote from her favorite lady who dares, Barbie: "Every morning, I thank God for my unique ability to accessorize." Accessories play a pivotal role in this unabashed and uninhibited look. Accents such as detachable mauve fur cuffs add instant glamour.

2. The color palette is super feminine with plenty of "Barbie pinks" to choose from! Fabrics follow suit — think glitter knits, color washed jerseys, beading and netting, tulle and jacquards. Versace showed a multicolored swirl print top, also done by Morgan in tones of red/mustard/brown. Ms. Forde selected a floral sweater with gold glitter and gold and pearl buttons.

3. Lingerie dressing is more and more year-round wearable. Camisole tops become more sophisticated with details like adjustable velvet straps. Printed hosiery fabrics are used to make shell

tops. Sexy little bed jackets are popular at all price points, from a \$30 model at H&M to an \$800 one at Prada. Ruffles and rosette details figure prominently in this ultra-feminine style of dressing. Atsuro Tamaya created a sleeveless beauty contestant top with a fabric rosette sewn at the waist.

4. Fabric developments make formerly uncomfortable leather snug and sexy. A new development is the addition of leather with stretch (Lycra on the inside of the garment). Inova fabric is also a new addition. It is a non-woven, made of tyvek combined with Lycra. For evening, there are knockout metallic/Lycra gowns.

5. Silhouettes are lean and lithe (narrow skirts) or sweetly feminine — a black boat neck pussycat bow top worn with a circle skirt at Miu Miu.

6. Bold is beautiful: oversized tartans at BCBG, multi-colored prints at Versace, and out of control graphics at Byblos.

### **Fall 2001 Fabric Preview**

Our story would not be complete without comment from the fabric manufacturers. This season we spoke with vendors at the new European Preview in New York City. At European Preview, we were struck by the popularity of brown as an "it" color as well as by an abundance of

interesting nubby textures. Vivid Pucci-esque circle and swirl prints were prominently displayed at the entrance in Fall 2001's primary colors. The colors of the season are red, brown, rust, faun and black. Magenta and orange serve as accents.

Once inside, we spoke with representatives from three of the European fabric houses. They shared their fabric trend forecasts with us and told us what has sparked interest with designers thus far.

### **#1: Company & Rep: CARREMAN, Phillipe Morel**

Product sector: Wool type fabrics and other fibers. This manufacturer is based in the South of France. Many of the fabrics they offer are wool and wool blends with a 2-4% Lycra content. Carreman's second division or "younger" line is called COLINE, and focuses on fabrics that are suitable for techno, sportswear and city clothes. Cotton and linen are strong in this category. The men's shirts made from these fabrics nicely complement the wool suiting in the primary line.

Color predictions: orange, brown, olive greens, dulled earth tones. Morel qualifies this statement by saying that although everyone is *looking* at brown, it's still a hard sell.

### **Excitement:**

Tweeds in grape and faun colors  
Fabrics with Lurex

continued on page 8



his whisper light bias cut gowns, experimented successfully with some new shapes and fabrics. Most noteworthy, the black one-shoulder "graphica" gown (reminiscent of the children's game, Spirograph). There was also a brightly patterned pink and red dyed silk wool gown with a high slit up the leg. The gown was a departure for Mr. Danes who generally shies away from prints. For the finale — an elegant asymmetrical peach strapless "deb" dress.

### Pamela Dennis

There was as much glamour backstage as on the runway, with designer Pamela Dennis playfully showing off the enormous square cut diamond bauble she had borrowed from Harry Winston for her show. "My husband gave it to me for good luck!" she joked to the gaggle of camera crews who surrounded her post-show. Indeed, the models dripped diamonds, looking both very rich and very Hollywood, just as Ms. Dennis likes things. There was something for everyone. For the quieter ladylike gal, there was a white sweater and skirt very tastefully accented with diamonds. For the bolder woman who doesn't mind going way way "over the top," a gold peacock feather strapless top paired with matching gold pants. Importantly, the now infamous virtually transparent "Geena" dress Ms. Davis



MARC JACOBS

wore to the Emmys translated into an entire group, employing the same spider web fabrication in varying styles and lengths.

### Carolina Herrera

Very "rich girl goes to Palm Beach" was the feeling on the runway. Ms. Herrera showed the season's hot pants, that somehow looked tasteful here, and some interesting block prints, like the Russian peasant styled cream and brown top worn with hot pants and heels. Indeed, it

looked as though she had hit it big with the Hollywood set, as well as with her usual cadre of socialites. LA based stylist to the stars, Philip Bloch, loved the bright shiny clothes. In particular, he favored Herrera's vibrant purple satin gown: "What's modern to me now, he said in a statement made to FI, "are clothes that flow beautifully; it's also younger looking. When clothes are cut this well to really flow, there's no need for all of those other embellishments like sequins and paillettes."

### Marc Jacobs

Crossing early Madonna with some '50s debutante touches like giant fabric corsages worn in the hair and A-line dance skirts, Jacobs, a fearless designer, was not afraid to mix things up. While using quite a lot of tulle in his dresses, he also whipped up some cute little tulle hats. He was also all over the '80s theme with perky little taxi driver caps and "Candies" inspired slides. His strapless and off-the-shoulder tops, flounce skirts and wide leg Capri pants sported wide low-slung belts and pretty ribbon belts. Little bustier tops, ranging from baby blue to iridescent black with white trim, mimicked old-fashioned whalebone stays. His two best outfits were the simplest: a blue off-the-shoulder cotton jersey top, cleverly finished with tiny ribbons at the top of the shoulders, over a red silk poplin bias skirt; and the black iridescent cotton jacket

continued on page 7



topping an orange A-line mini skirt. Outerwear included a wonderful white painted leather trench coat, double-breasted with big blue buttons and a self-belt that nipped it neatly in at the waist. Although evening is always highly experimental, he scored a direct hit with a blue silk faille and fishnet evening dress. Less being definitely better in this category: the heavy '80s hip belts could be removed — these clothes will stand on their own.

### Michael Kors


Imagine that you are on a road trip on Route 66 with Susan Sarandon and Geena Davis — a luxe one! Although these clothes were considerably pared down from last season, these are pieces that keep forever. As more than one member of the audience remarked, Michael Kors has crossed the bridge from being a designer to being a brand. Accordingly,

the collection is quintessential Kors. Mr. Kors showed suede, leather and fur in a calm, soothing desert colored palette and even some black. The collection is a startling contrast to his much acclaimed "Palm Bitch" collection only one year earlier. Show highlights included two long black prairie dresses to two-step the night away at a favorite roadhouse. Accessories figured prominently here. He turned to the '70s and '80s for inspiration, and covered the '70s with a return to chunky aquamarine accessories. Best was a terrific leather and aquamarine satchel bag with large tortoise shell and aquamarine disks decorating the shoulder straps. For just about every designer, the '80s reappear frequently. Here it is with wide leather belts worn low on the hips as the club girls did in the early part of the decade.

### Karambelas Couture

Conducting her made-to-measure couture business

from the privacy of a tony loft on 72<sup>nd</sup> Street between 5<sup>th</sup> and Madison Avenues, Ms. Karambelas has been a one-woman band doing everything except sewing the garments. She officially started her business in March 1999 with a collection of 30 pieces that included suits, dresses and evening gowns shown to a group of 70 friends. Today, sales continue to be brisk with '60s Glam-inspired clothing, made from the finest fabrics available. For wannabe Bond Babes (the ones that hung on the arm of Sean Connery), there was a double-face couture wool pink and green evening column with a jeweled ribbon running down the front and back. For city daywear, a camel textured couture wool coat and skirt ensemble reminiscent of what Julie Christie might have worn. Now comfortably established, her designs will be made available to a wider circle of women in 2001 with a small capsule collection for better specialty stores.



May your Holidays  
be filled with  
Joy and Good Will and  
May the New Year bring  
Peace to us all,  
a Heartfelt Wish

from the entire staff of  
**FASHION INTERNATIONAL**



Beige wool continues as a strong suiting fabric

Trend alert: "Casual but nice" is back for both men and women. "Everyone is going back to suiting," asserts Morel. He predicts that we will be seeing less stretchy fabric than before. Consequently, clothing will be less fitted in the future.

Special comments: "Lycra is for comfort, it's not a look we do. Our customer is usually looking for something that has between 1-3% Lycra content. Anything over 10%, our customer isn't interested."

**#2: Company & Rep:  
LANIFICO GREMAN SRL,  
Paolo Rosso**

Product sector: Wool type fabrics and other fibers

Trend alert: For the women, there is lots of interest in bright plaids, particularly red, pink and fuchsia. In menswear, "navy is a heavy hitter, says Rosso, "and surprisingly, so are lighter shades of taupe."

Special comments: "Keep the Lycra content low, from 1% to a maximum of 5% in suiting fabrics."

**#3: Company & Rep:  
WOLBO, Olaf Bielefeld**

Category: Sportswear fabrics

Trend alert: It's a texture story. WOLBO's best seller so far is a dark navy cotton fabric of 220-gram/meter weight that is most commonly used for men's and women's chinos. What makes this particular fabric special is its fine "micro-slice" finish, sometimes described as a "dream finish," which gives it an almost velour type feel, maintains Bielefeld.

Special comments: "Customers look for the fabric that *feels* right first and *then* at the color. In terms of color, it's not that big an issue," claims Bielefeld. "People like cross-dyed fabrics. Olive is big for Fall, and sand is doing well."

"SPRING 2001" continued from page 4

who lunch will covet **AREND's** sophisticated designs after dark. Highlights included his gorgeous asymmetrical coral silk georgette top with ruffled sleeves and bias cut hipster pants with iridescent fishnet beading. Also glittery is an ombré sequined miniskirt paired with a white stretch silk blouse. Arend has a way with ethereal color combinations. The prettiest example was his halter neck blouson in mocha chiffon shown with aqua silk hipster pants embellished at the waist with multicolored whitecap beading. All-American girl, **DANA BUCHMAN** showed a well-rounded collection designed to cover every aspect of a woman's

life. Highlights included her buttery soft spray painted leather pants, a paisley surplice blouson with black chiffon pants, iridescent jacquard pieces, the silk twill scarf prints, an appliqued organza shell atop aqua /lime jacquard tiny floral skinny pants, and finally, the chic youthful Linton tweed jackets paired with leather skirts. Sometimes the simplest ideas are best of all. **PETIT BATEAU** proved that point with some charming cotton knit dresses, especially the stripe/solid reversible tank style, and the three-button sleeveless dress with coordinated cardigan, and tees in delicious colors

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